

## Message Text

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41

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 SAJ-01 SSO-00 L-02 H-01

SY-04 INR-07 PRS-01 USIE-00 JUSE-00 /033 W

----- 025577

P 311232Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5792

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 19173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES CGEN (KIEDINGER, ROBERT E.)(HENDRIX, JAMES M.)

SUBJECT: VIOLENT DEATH OF U.S. SEAMAN

REF: (A) STATE 283549; (B) MOSCOW 19119

1. SOVIET AUTHORITIES PERMITTED EAGLE VOYAGER TO SAIL FOR POTI ABOUT 1 A.M. DEC 31. HENDRIX IS STILL ABOARD, IN CUSTODY SHIP'S OFFICERS. KIEDINGER REMAINS WERE TAKEN OFF SHIP EVENING DEC 30 FOR AUTOPSY IN ODESSA.
2. ONE SHIP'S OFFICER - REPORTEDLY CAPTAIN THOMAS - IS STILL IN ODESSA, AND CONSOFF IS EN ROUTE TO ODESSA TO CONFER WITH HIM AND INFLOT OFFICIALS. EMBASSY TENTATIVELY PLANS TO SEND ANOTHER CONSOFF TO POTI AT LATER DATE TO TAKE STATEMENTS PER PARA 5 REF A.
3. DEC 30 CONSOFF PHONED MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION AND TENTATIVELY REQUESTED U.S. JURISDICTION PER PARA 4 REF B. DEC 31 CONSOFF CALLED AT CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION AND REPORTED EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED NOTIFICATION THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES INTEND TO PURSUE POSSIBLE MURDER CASE UNDER U.S. LAW. CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION OFFICERS GAVE NO INDICATION SOVIET AUTHORITIES CONTEMPLATED EXERCISING JURISDICTION, AND CLAIMED THAT UNDER SOVIET LAW CAPTAIN WOULD HAVE JURISDICTION IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. REF PARA 4 REF A, EMBASSY CAN APPRECIATE CAPTAIN'S

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CONCERN ABOUT PROBLEM OF KEEPING ACCUSED MURDERER OF SHIPMATE

ABOARD FOR LONG VOYAGE, AND IN ENDEAVORING TO DETERMINE INFORMALLY WHETHER IN PRINCIPLE SOVIET AUTHORITIES MIGHT COOPERATE IN "TRANSIT" OF ACCUSED FROM POTI TO SHEREMETYEVO FOR FLIGHT TO U.S. IN CUSTODY U.S. MARSHALL. SHOULD WE SUBSEQUENTLY ASK SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO COOPERATE IN ANY SUCH EFFORT AND THEY MAKE DECISION TO RENDER REQUEST ASSISTANCE, WE BELIEVE SUCH TRANSIT WOULD BE SAFER IN USSR THAN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES.

5. US CORRESPONDENTS HAVE HEARD ABOUT CASE AND ARE MAKING INQUIRIES. EMBASSY IS REPLYING FACTUALLY BUT NOT PROVIDIING NAME OF HENDRIX.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 283549, 75 MOSCOW 19119  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIOLENT DEATH OF U.S. SEAMAN  
**TAGS:** CDES, CGEN, (KIEDINGER, ROBERT E), (HENDRIX, JAMES M)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005